

Message Text

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71

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 EB-11 H-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

SAM-01 FEA-02 DRC-01 /064 W
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P 121450Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6437

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, LE

SUBJECT: SHORT SUPPLY PROBLEMS

REF: STATE 23940

1. ONLY BASIC INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS BEING DELIBERATELY
REGULATED OR LIMITED BY GOL ARE PETROLEUM PRODUCTS,
PARTICULARLY GAS OIL AND JET FUEL.

2. THE TWO LOCAL REFINERIES PRODUCE SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES
THESE ITEMS TO SATISFY LOCAL DEMAND AND PROVIDE SOME
EXCESS FOR EXPORT. SINCE OCTOBER WAR, HOWEVER, AND

DAMAGE TO SYRIAN REFINERY CAPACITY, LEBANON HAS ENCOURAGED
REFINERIES AND LOCAL DISTRIBUTORS TO ALTER OUTPUT AND
DISTRIBUTION PATTERNS IN ORDER MAKE UP PART OF SYRIAN
SHORTFALL, PARTICULARLY OF GAS OIL. APPARENTLY, COMPANIES
HAVE RESPONDED POSITIVELY, AND GOL HAS NOT FELT NEED
IMPOSE LEGAL REGULATIONS ON REFINING AND DISTRIBUTION.

3. EXPORTS REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS ARE, HOWEVER, SUBJECT
GOL SURVEILLANCE IN GENERAL MOVE TO CONSERVE LOCAL SUPPLIES
AND PREVENT EXCESSIVE OVERSEAS DEMAND FROM DRAINING LOCAL
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SUPPLIES. SHIPS BUNKERS AND AVIATION FUEL RATIONED, BUT

IMPLEMENTATION FLEXIBLE TO DATE. (US VESSEL OBTAINED FULL
BUNKER NEEDS.) DISCRIMINATORY PRICING OF SHIPS BUNKERS
FAVORS SMALL LEBANESE MERCHANT MARINE. THIS INTRODUCED
AFTER LOCAL SHIPOWNERS THREATENED STRIKE AND FAVORABLE
PRICE IS LIMITED TO NOMINAL AMOUNTS.
HOUGHTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Concepts: PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, EXPORT CONTROLS, INDUSTRIAL EXPORTS, JET FUEL
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